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United Nations S/2003/151

Security Council

Distr.: General
6 February 2003

Original: English

Report by the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representative of the Russian Federation on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a note verbale dated 4 February 2003 from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations stating that Mr. Vadim S. Smirnov has been appointed alternate representative of the Russian Federation on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, the note verbale constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

03-23922 (E) 060203

United Nations S/2003/152

Security Council

Distr.: General
6 February 2003

Original: English

Letter dated 5 February 2003 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 9 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Gambia to the United Nations (see annex).

I would appreciate it if the attached letter, together with its enclosure, could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Adolfo **Aguilar Zinser**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone

03-24038 (E) 100203

Annex

Letter dated 9 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Gambia to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone

I wish to refer you to our earlier communication dated 8 April 2002 on this subject. We had earlier informed you of the arrest and eventual prosecution of Pieter Judo Maarten Dervoden of Belgium and Sorry Ebrima Touray of Sierra Leone for illegally dealing in diamonds from Sierra Leone.

Let me inform you that criminal case No. 57/2002 brought against the above-named persons was concluded with the delivery of the judgment of Bundung Magistrates' Court on 25 May 2002, a copy of which is annexed hereto (see enclosure). For your information, both accused persons pleaded guilty to both charges brought against them. They had the assistance of counsel throughout the trial.

Count 1 was: importation of rough or uncut diamonds into the Gambia without licence contrary to section 172 (A) of the Customs Act, Cap. A 86.01, Vol. III, of the Laws of the Gambia. Count 2 was: conspiracy to commit a misdemeanour contrary to section 369 of the Criminal Code, Cap. 10, Vol. III, of the Laws of the Gambia and punishable under section 34 of the Criminal Code.

The accused persons were duly convicted on counts 1 and 2 accordingly. Fines and custodial sentences were imposed on them and the diamonds were forfeited to the State in accordance with section 66 of the Minerals Act, Cap. 64.00, of the Laws of the Gambia.

Let me reiterate the Gambia's commitment to the fight against the illegal use of diamonds to fuel conflicts in the world. We are always willing to cooperate with the Committee in the fulfilment of its mandate.

Kindly circulate the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Crispin **Grey-Johnson**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

Enclosure

IN THE BUNDUNG MAGISTRATE COURT

CRIMINAL CASE NO. 57/2002

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE

VS.

PIETER JUDO MAARTEN DERVODEN

SORRY EBRIMA TOURAY

Wednesday 22nd May 2002
Before Her Worship Mrs. K. S. Janneh
1st accused Present
2nd accused Present

A. S. P. Dibba for IGP Present
O. Jawara for 1st and 2nd accused

Counsel for the accused informs the Court that the 2nd accused wishes to change his plea to guilty.

Any objection? No.

I shall re-read the charge to the accused person. Charge re-read to the accused in English and interpreted into French for the 1st accused, which he seems to understand.

Count 1

1st accused pleads "guilty"
2nd accused pleads "guilty"

Count 2

1st accused pleads "guilty"
2nd accused pleads "guilty"

JUDGMENT

FACTS

On 22 February 2002, the N. I. A. had a tip-off that 1st accused was in possession of diamonds at the Badala Park Hotel. A team was led by Officer Lamin Darboe. They went to the General Manager of the Hotel, introduced themselves as intelligence officers and explained their mission. They informed the General Manager that they wanted to search the room of the 1st accused, room No. B.9.

The General Manager accepted this and gave them an escort, the Assistant Security Supervisor Buba Saidykhan. They went with him to room B.9, found the 1st accused and introduced themselves as intelligence officers. He welcomed them and the intelligence officers started searching. During the course of the search, they asked the accused to open an L-safe in his room. In the L-safe they recovered about US$

6,800 in US$ 100 notes and 311 pieces of diamonds. These are already in the custody of the court. I would like to tender them as Exhibit.

Q. Any objection?
A. No.

Diamond admitted and marked Exh. A, A3 and dollars, Exh. B, B6. A passport belonging to the accused and a weighing scale were also found which are with the court. I am applying to tender them.

Passport admitted and marked Exh. C, weighing scale, Exh. D. The accused was asked how he came into possession of the diamonds. He said he got them from two people at the Fajara Hotel. He told the officer that the 2nd accused took him to these people. He was arrested, taken to the Intelligence Office with the 2nd accused where they were cautioned and charged with the offences for which they now stand before this court for trial.

Are the facts true and correct?

1st accused: Yes.
2nd accused: Yes.

I shall adjourn this matter for VERDICT.

Matter adjourned to 29/5/2002.

Accused bail continues.

1st accused: Present.
2nd accused: Present.

A. S. P. Dibba with Cadet M. Sanneh for IGP.
O. Jawara for 1st and 2nd accused, Present.

Are the facts true and correct?

1st accused: Yes.
2nd accused: Yes.

VERDICT

The two accused persons are jointly charged with 2 counts. Count 1: importation of rough and uncut diamonds without a licence contrary to S. 172(a) of the Customs Act, Cap. 86:01, Vol. VIII, Laws of the Gambia.

Count 2: conspiracy to commit a misdemeanour contrary to S. 369 of the Criminal Code, Cap. 10, Vol. III, Laws of the Gambia. Both accused plead guilty to both counts.

From the facts as narrated by the prosecution, the National Intelligence officers had information that the 1st accused was in possession of some diamonds and was staying at the Badala Park Hotel.

The intelligence officers acted on the information and went to the hotel. At Badala Park, they were assigned a hotel security guard to accompany them to the 1st accused room by the General Manager of the hotel. The 1st accused was staying at room No. B.9. On getting to the 1st accused room, No. B.9, the officers, led by Lamin Darboe, an intelligence officer, introduced themselves to the 1st accused

person and explained their mission. They were welcomed and allowed to enter the room and conduct a search.

In the course of the search, 311 diamond pieces were found in the safe that the 1st accused opened for them, together with $6,800 in $100 notes. Diamonds were tendered, admitted and marked Exh. A-A3. The 68 $100 notes were tendered, admitted and marked Exh. B1-B68.

A weighing scale found in the safe with a passport belonging to the 1st accused were also tendered. The 1st accused passport was admitted and marked Exh. C, the weighing scale admitted and marked Exh. D. On enquiring as to how he got the diamonds, the 1st accused explained that the 2nd accused introduced him to two people at the Fajara Hotel from whom he got the diamonds. He was arrested and taken to the N. I. A. headquarters as well as the 2nd accused, and now they stand for trial.

The two accused confirmed the facts as being true and correct.

From the facts as outlined, the accused are charged with importation of the said diamonds found in the possession of the 1st accused without a licence contrary to S. 172(a) of the Customs Act Cap. 86:02, Vol. III, Laws of the Gambia and conspiracy to commit a misdemeanour. S. 172(a) of the Customs Act states "every person who shall (a) import or bring or be concerned in importing or bringing into The Gambia any prohibited goods or any goods the importation of which is restricted contrary to such prohibition or restriction whether the same be unloaded or not" shall be guilty of an offence. For this offence to be committed, the goods must be prohibited and there must be an importation by the accused or caused by the accused.

The accused must have acted contrary to restriction. In this case, the 1st accused is found in possession of rough and uncut diamonds, which are prohibited goods if the one in possession did not have a licence to deal in them.

However, the most important ingredient of the section is "an importation into the Gambia of such prohibited goods. The facts disclosed did not prove that the 1st or even the 2nd accused imported or caused these prohibited goods to be imported into the country.

The accused were not arrested at a port of entry, be it the airport or sea port. The search of the 1st accused did not reveal any importation document or receipt, cargo bill of lading, etc. The intelligence officer merely found him in possession of these prohibited goods and he did not have a licence.

On enquiry, he told them that they were bought from people introduced by the 2nd accused. Nowhere in the facts did the accused say he caused these prohibited goods to be imported into the country or imported them himself or the 2nd accused. Based on the above, the charge against the 2nd accused contrary to S. 172(a) of the Customs Act, Cap. 86:01 cannot hold. However, pursuant to S. 151 of the C. P. C. where the offence disclosed by the facts did not constitute the offence charged, the accused person may be convicted of the other offence. S. 151 of the C. P. C. Cap. 12:01, Vol. III, Laws of the Gambia, states that "every charge shall be deemed to be divisible into the integral parts legally necessary to commit the offence charged as described in the enacted creating the offence and if the evidence shows that some integral part of the offence charged only are proved and such parts which are proved or some of

them taken together constitute another offence the person charged may be convicted of the other offence or of an attempt to commit it".

In addition to this, as held in Woolmington V D. P. P., the prosecution has the burden to prove the guilt of an act beyond all reasonable doubt in a criminal trial.

In this case, the facts disclosed did not constitute all the integral parts of the offence charged. As the accused was found in possession of prohibited goods, not to have imported them, without a licence, S. 65 of the Minerals Act, Cap. 64, Vol. VII, Laws of the Gambia, states that "any person who being in possession of any mineral does not prove to the satisfaction of the court that he obtained such material lawfully shall independently of any other liability be guilty of an offence".

The 1st accused is found in possession of 311 pieces of diamonds. He did not show the officers any licence granted by the State showing him to be lawfully dealing in these minerals in the Gambia.

Also he did not show any evidence to the contrary that he was lawfully dealing in these minerals. He did not show any receipt for purchase or any certificate or any authority whatsoever, nor was any authority vested in him to deal in these minerals.

The other items found with him are not illegal. They are $6,800.00, his passport and a weighing scale.

The facts further disclose that the 2nd accused is not staying with the 1st accused in room B.9, he was not present when the 1st accused room was searched and none of the 311 pieces of diamonds were found with him. He only came to be known when the 1st accused mentioned that he had introduced him to the sellers of the diamonds. Then he was arrested.

From all the above, I find neither of the accused guilty of importation of rough or uncut diamonds into the Gambia without a licence contrary to Section 172(a) of the Customs Act, Cap 86:01, but I find the 1st accused guilty with respect to S. 65 the Mineral Act, Cap 64:01, Vol. VII, Laws of the Gambia, for being in possession of a mineral without a licence.

I find both accused guilty of count III of conspiracy to commit a felony contrary to S. 367 of the C. P. C., Cap. 10, Vol. III, Laws of the Gambia.

I shall convict both accused accordingly.

Allocution by counsel for the accused.

Your Worship, the 1st accused is a 68-year-old pensioner who works part-time for a reputable company in Antwerp. Your Worship, ignorance is not a defence, but the 1st accused has gone through a great ordeal from the moment this thing started.

In my opinion, this has served as a great retribution, thus I doubt if he would endeavour in such acts as he was convicted of today.

Your Worship, he is a first offender, a family man and most of all, in need of urgent medical attention. I beg Your Worship to exercise leniency and discretion in sentencing the 1st accused. Your Worship, the 2nd accused is also a first offender. He has been living in the Gambia for almost five years and in full-time employment. Your Worship, he has also gone through a great ordeal which, in my opinion, will serve as a warning so that such an offence will not be committed in the future.

Both accused have accepted the offence they have been convicted of and wish to face the consequences and put it behind them. I urge Your Worship to exercise leniency and discretion in sentencing both convicts.

Prosecutor: Your Worship, I want to make an application; I am applying for the deportation of the 1st accused from this country.

Counsel: Your Worship, I am objecting to that application as the offence he has been convicted of does not warrant such an action. He has committed an offence and has preferred to face the consequence. He did intend to go back to his family as a two-week holiday has turn out to be a four-month ordeal.

I believe that he is already facing embarrassment for the offence of which he has been convicted. I urge Your Worship to allow the old man to leave in peace and dignity. In any event, he has not found security in any way thereby in possession of illegal items.

Your Worship, the 1st accused loves Gambia and intends to continue visiting the Gambia as a tourist. Your Worship, I submit that such an application is too harsh. Enough is enough.

Court — Question — previous records?

Answer — No, according to police records, they are 1st offenders.

SENTENCES

COUNT 1

Section 65 (a) of the Minerals Act, Cap. 64.00, states the penalty for violation of section 65, i.e. unlawful possession of minerals. It states that on summary conviction, a fine not exceeding D2,000 (two thousand dalasis) may be imposed or imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding 12 months or both such fine and imprisonment. In addition to this penalty, section 66 of the same Act (Mineral Act) states that "on conviction of any person, whether summarily or on information for an offence against section 65 of this Act any Mineral in respect of such offence has been committed shall unless prove by some other person to be the property of that other person be forfeited to the State and shall be sold or otherwise disposed of as the Minister may by order direct the proceeds from the sale shall be paid into general revenue".

I shall therefore sentence the 1st accused to 12 months or a D2,000 fine. The 711 pieces of diamonds shall be forfeited to the State.

COUNT 2

I shall sentence the accused to six months' imprisonment or a D2,000 (two thousand dalasis) fine.

The sentence of the 1st accused shall be concurrent and the fine cumulative. I further order that the sum of $6,800.00 found in the possession of the 1st accused, his passport and weighing scale be returned to the 1st accused, who shall sign for them.

I shall allow the 1st accused to continue staying in the Gambia and may depart peacefully when he so wishes after serving his sentence as he is not a threat or menace to society.

Signed MAGISTRATE
NGUIE MBOOB ESQ.
29/5/02

United Nations S/2003/153

Security Council

Distr.: General
6 February 2003

Original: English

Letter dated 6 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to write to you in my capacity as the Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement regarding the report that Dr. Hans Blix, Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, and Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, are due to present to the Security Council on 14 February 2003.

The Non-Aligned Movement believes that this report will provide a clear indication of the best way in which the wider international community might be able to support the Security Council in achieving a peaceful resolution of this matter. In this regard, we respectfully request that the Security Council consider convening an open debate in order to afford the Members of the United Nations the opportunity to express their views on this important issue of international peace and security.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dumisani S. **Kumalo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-24019 (E) 060203

United Nations A/ES-10/215 S/2003/154

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
6 February 2003

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 6 February 2003 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In blatant violation of all norms of international law, international humanitarian law, human rights law and United Nations resolutions, Israel, the occupying Power, continues relentlessly to carry out its bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people. This vicious campaign has been the cause of thousands of deaths, vast destruction, the crippling of the Palestinian Authority and the untold suffering for the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Not a single day passes in which the Palestinian people do not suffer from the wrath and brutality of the Israeli occupying forces. Not a single aspect of Palestinian life has remained unaffected by this military campaign. Indeed, every sector and every generation of Palestinian society have been severely impacted by the war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, on a daily basis.

Since my last letter to you one week ago, I regret to inform you that at least 15 Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces. These human lives, ended by the brute and excessive force used by the occupying forces against the civilian population under occupation, included men, women and children. In a tragic incident yesterday in the Gaza Strip, the occupying forces killed a 65-year old Palestinian woman, Kamila Suleiman Sa'eed, when they demolished her home and crushed her to death. According to reports, the woman was partly deaf and did not hear the occupying forces' orders to leave the home. This is not the first time that this illegal Israeli measure of collective punishment, namely the demolition of Palestinian homes, has also caused the death of Palestinian civilians. Such killings and demolitions are among the countless compound war crimes being committed by the occupying Power against the civilian population under its occupation.

Also, late yesterday, the occupying forces killed two Palestinian paramedics at Al-Wafa Hospital for the Elderly in Gaza City. The occupying forces shot through a window of the hospital, killing Abdelkarim Anwar Libid, age 22, and Omar Saad al-

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Din Hassan, age 21, as they were working in the hospital. The killing of these two young men represents one of many attacks by the Israeli occupying forces on medical personnel, vehicles and institutions over the course of the past 28 months. Clearly, there is no Israeli respect for the protection accorded to such persons and facilities by international humanitarian law.

As noted above, in addition to the killings of these three Palestinians, the Israeli occupying forces have killed several other Palestinians in other raids and assaults in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, over the past week, including in the cities of Tulkarem, Nablus, Qalqilya, Jenin and Gaza. Throughout this week, dozens of Palestinians have also been wounded in attacks by the occupying forces, using machine gunfire, tank fire and helicopter missile fire. Moreover, the occupying forces continue to abduct and detain Palestinians, many of them arrested during overnight raids.

At the same time, the Israeli occupying forces have continued their destructive rampage throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, bulldozing homes and roads and raiding and ransacking homes and offices. Just today, the Israeli occupying forces raided two office buildings in the city of Ramallah, containing mainly medical and law offices, destroying doors, furniture and files. Further, in Al-Khalil, in addition to the destruction of homes, the occupying forces have blockaded all the main thoroughfares in the city and have subjected the television and radio stations, at least three police stations and two Palestinian universities in the city to indefinite closures. These illegal closures are being imposed by the occupying forces in conjunction with the imposition of a curfew on the city of Al-Khalil as a whole. Such round-the-clock curfews also continue to be imposed on other Palestinian cities and towns, in addition to the constant and severe restrictions on the freedom of movement of persons and goods being imposed by the occupying Power throughout the entire Occupied Palestinian Territory.

The international community cannot continue to stand idly by while the Palestinian people continue to be subjected to the inhumane policies and practices of this foreign occupation by Israel. The United Nations Security Council in particular, in upholding its duties and responsibilities under the Charter, must undertake the necessary measures to bring this tragic and constantly deteriorating situation to an end.

This letter is in follow-up to my previous 115 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 30 January 2003 (A/ES-10/213-S/2003/119), constitute a basic record of the crimes committed by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

Accordingly, in follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, I once again regret to inform you that, since my last letter to you, the Israeli occupying forces have killed at least 15 Palestinians, including children, raising the total number of martyrs to 2,115 Palestinians. (The names of the martyrs that have been identified thus far are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 6 February 2003 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of the martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem* (Thursday, 30 January 2003, through Thursday, 6 February 2003)

Thursday, 30 January 2003 (in addition to the martyrs in the letter of 30 January)

Ahmed Rasheed Banioudа

Friday, 31 January 2003

1. Hassan Ahmed Hassan Saleh
2. Eyad Khalil Mohammed Musa
3. Tamer Majdi Abdelhady Khudeir (17 years old)

Sunday, 2 February 2003

Abdelrahman Harb Al-Huraini

Monday, 3 February 2003

1. Salem Suleiman Al-Abed Qudeih
2. Rami Atta Ali Abu Shab

Wednesday, 5 February 2003

1. Rida Ahmed Hussein Ghanim
2. Kamila Suleiman Sa'eed
3. Samer Khalid Fuad Al-Zurba (17 years old)

Thursday, 6 February 2003

1. Omar Saad al-Din Hassan
2. Abdelkarim Anwar Libid
3. Ahmed Abdelkarim Hamad
4. Ala'a Mahmoud Hunani
5. Abdelbaki Mohammed Abdelbaki Muslim

* The total number of Palestinians killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 2,315 martyrs.

United Nations S/2003/155

Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2003
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 5 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 5 February 2003 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 5 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq

Activities of the inspection teams on 5 February 2003

I. IAEA inspection team

1. A first group, composed of four inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9.10 a.m. and arrived at the Shaykhali warehouses at Tuwaythah, 25 kilometres south of Baghdad, belonging to the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC), the Ministry of Housing, the Electricity Company and the Atomic Energy Organization. The group inspected all the warehouses and examined their contents, namely, stocks of materials and mechanical and electrical parts, photographed some of them and checked tagged equipment. The mission lasted six hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

2. A second group, composed of four inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. and, using a vehicle-mounted NAI measuring device, performed radiation surveys in several places, including the Rashid camp, the First Military College and the Rashid airbase. The mission lasted three hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

II. UNMOVIC inspection team (chemical)

A team of 10 inspectors left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. and arrived at the Shaykhali warehouses in Tuwaythah, 25 kilometres south of Baghdad. The team inspected warehouses belonging to MIC, the Ministry of Housing and Reconstruction and the Ministry of Industry and Minerals, and inspected the warehouses' contents. The team then checked and verified tagged equipment and used a device for testing and analysing metals. The team arrived at the same time as the IAEA team. The inspection lasted 3 hours 30 minutes, after which the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

III. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

1. A first group, composed of nine inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. and arrived at the Nu'man State Company affiliated to MIC. The group removed tags placed on warehouse No. 27 in order to carry out a thorough inspection of its contents, then inquired about some fibreglass structures found inside the warehouse. The mission lasted six hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

2. A second group, composed of seven inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.55 a.m. and arrived at the Nutrition Research Institute, affiliated to the Ministry of Health, located in the Waziriyah district of Baghdad. The group asked

the Institute's Director about the nature of the Institute's work and the types and nature of the diseases with which it was dealing, as well as the names of department heads and the names of the entities supplying samples to the Institute. The group inquired whether the Institute had any tagged equipment. It then inspected the Institute's laboratories. The inspection lasted one hour, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

3. A third group, composed of seven inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. and arrived at the Laser and Plasma Institute affiliated to Baghdad University. The group asked the Dean of the Institute whether it was independent or affiliated to a college, and inquired about the Institute's units and laboratories, the names of unit heads, who provided funding for the Institute, the number of teachers and students following higher education courses and whether the Institute had any culture media or microscopic bacteria. The group then inspected the laboratories, storage areas, administrative facilities and animal cages. The inspection lasted two hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

4. A fourth group, composed of four inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. and arrived at the Abu Gharib Dairy Plant affiliated to the Ministry of Industry and Minerals, located in Abu Gharib, 25 kilometres west of Baghdad. The group inspected the production department and replaced damaged or missing tags with new ones, then checked the declarations concerning the plant and took samples from the dumping area. The mission lasted two hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

IV. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

1. A first group, composed of seven inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8 a.m. and arrived at the Al-Mutasim factory belonging to the Rashid State Company, an MIC subsidiary. The group met the factory director and asked him to fill out a questionnaire comprising questions about all activities carried out at the site since 1998. The group then inspected the missile assembly building, using a digital camera, recording equipment and a device for measuring dimensions. The inspection lasted 4 hours 15 minutes, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

2. A second group, composed of five inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. and arrived at the Al-Fatah factory in Taji, Baghdad, belonging to the Al-Karamah State Company, an MIC subsidiary. Upon arrival, the group checked declarations concerning the control and guidance systems and then inspected building B3 and the storage area. The mission lasted three hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

3. A third group, composed of three inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. and arrived at the Al-Mutasim factory, located 25 kilometres south of Baghdad, belonging to the Rashid State Company, an MIC affiliate. The group placed tags on certain missiles located inside the factory and removed tags from others for inspection purposes. The inspection lasted two hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

V. UNMOVIC joint inspection team

A team of five inspectors left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9.30 a.m. and arrived at a Baghdad municipal garbage dump and a private cement factory located on the same site in the Taji district, 30 kilometres north of Baghdad. Upon arrival, the team divided into two groups: the first group observed garbage-dumping operations while the second group met the cement factory's deputy director and inquired about the site's owner, whether any chemical substances were being stored and added to the cement and who were the end-users, after which it inspected the site. The inspection lasted 20 minutes, after which the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

VI. UNMOVIC joint inspection team in Mosul

A team of 11 inspectors left the Nineveh Palace Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and arrived at the Sinjar cement factory belonging to the Ministry of Industry. The team met the factory director and asked him about the factory's current and former names, its owner, the location of the parent company and the whereabouts of the former director, the name of the parent company's director, the number of departments, the names of department heads and what mechanism was used for importing materials under the Memorandum of Understanding. The inspection lasted three hours, after which the team returned to the Nineveh Palace Hotel.

United Nations A/58/62–S/2003/156

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
6 February 2003

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

Letter dated 30 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine issued on 29 January 2003 on the occasion of the signing of the Treaty between Ukraine and the Russian Federation on the Ukrainian-Russian State Border (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies", and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Valeriy **Kuchinsky**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 30 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine issued on 29 January 2003 on the occasion of the signing of the Treaty between Ukraine and the Russian Federation on the Ukrainian-Russian State Border

28 January marked a prominent event in the history of Ukraine and the Russian Federation: Presidents Leonid Kuchma and Vladimir Putin signed the Treaty on the Ukrainian-Russian State Border. This completed an important stage of legal formalization of the Ukrainian State Border.

The signing of the Treaty opens a new page in the centuries-old history of the Ukrainian and Russian nations. It expands opportunities for further development of the relations between Ukraine and Russia as independent sovereign States and good neighbours. Our peoples confirmed their aspiration to build their mutual relations on the principles of friendship, cooperation and partnership. Hereby they made another contribution to the cause of strengthening European security.

The Treaty will contribute to the consolidation of a high level of mutual understanding and trust, to the civilized resolution of the issues which may arise between Ukraine and the Russian Federation.

The work done represents a road map for further cooperation in the settlement of remaining problems and a guarantee of their resolution in the interests of both sides. To this end Ukraine will continue to make efforts to complete legal formalization of the State Border along its full perimeter.

United Nations S/2003/157

Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2003
English
Original: French

Letter dated 7 February 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit hereto the press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation of Rwanda and press release SPKM 07/2003 issued by the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), as evidence additional to our letters of 3 and 4 February 2003 addressed to the President of the Security Council denying the presence of the Rwandan Defence Forces in the Ituri and east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as indicated in the false and unsubstantiated allegations of 31 January by MONUC and the ambassador of the Kinshasa Government to the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a Security Council document.

(*Signed*) Augustin **Muvunyi**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

03-24159 (E) 100203 100203

Annex to the letter dated 7 February 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation

Press release

Further to the reaction expressed by the Rwandan Government to MONUC following the distribution of its press release SPKM 06/2003 issued on 31 January and reporting movements of Rwandan troops in the east and north-east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Rwandan Government wishes to inform the public that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the Democratic Republic of the Congo has just issued another press release, SPKM 07/2003 of 6 February.

In that release, the Representative of the Secretary-General states that MONUC observers have sought to verify the facts reported in the most recent press release of 31 January 2003, and the findings are as follows:

The MONUC observers found no presence of Rwandan troops in Ituri or the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

They found Ugandan troops to be present only at Bunia airport;

He also indicates that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has recognized the presence of officers of the Congolese Armed Forces (FAC) at Beni.

The Government of Rwanda takes this opportunity to reiterate its commitment to full implementation of the Lusaka and Pretoria agreements, and calls on all the other signatory parties to honour the commitments they entered into in the presence of the international community.

It once again requests MONUC to disseminate information that has been well verified in advance, so as to avoid creating tensions prejudicial to the peace efforts in the Great Lakes region.

Done at Kigali on 7 February 2003

(*Signed*) Valens **Munyabagisha**
Ambassador
Secretary-General

Appendix

United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC)

Press release SPKM 07/2003

(Kinshasa, 6 February 2003)

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mr. Namanga Ngongi, has concluded his consultations with the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Rwanda and the Rassemblement congolais pour la démocratie-Goma (RCD/G) following the unconfirmed information on troop movements primarily in the north-east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In this context, Mr. Ngongi had also sent the commander of the MONUC forces, General Mountago Diallo, to Kigali on 3 February 2003.

The purpose of this step was to dispel the concerns expressed to MONUC by the three States concerned, and above all, to prevent a possible resumption of the fighting.

Following these consultations, the responses obtained are as follows:

The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo recognizes the presence of FAC officers in Beni in the context of the integration of the forces of the Rassemblement congolais pour la démocratie-Kisangani-mouvement de Libération (RCD/K-ML) into the future Congolese national army;

Ugandan officials denied any deployment of their troops close to the frontier with the Democratic Republic of the Congo north of Mahagi;

The Rwandan authorities reaffirmed that they no longer had troops in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, since the end of their withdrawal last October;

RCD/G announced that it had withdrawn from Luofu, 15 kilometres north-east of Kanyabayonga (North Kivu), and troop movements are no longer being reported around Kanyabayonga.

To date, the MONUC military observers who have conducted verifications in the locations they have been able to visit have not found any presence of Ugandan troops, other than at Bunia airport, or of Rwandan troops in Ituri and the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. MONUC, under its mandate, is continuing verification of the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Special Representative welcomes the assurances provided by all parties. Mr. Ngongi also hopes that these statements will contribute to removing the persistent tension in the north-east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and urges all parties to continue their efforts within the framework of the peace process.

United Nations S/2003/158

Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2003

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Angola

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1433 (2002) of 15 August 2002, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Angola (UNMA). It updates the key developments in Angola since my interim report of 12 December 2002 (S/2002/1353) and provides recommendations on the future role of the United Nations in that country.

II. Political developments

2. It should be recalled that Security Council resolution 1433 (2002) mandated UNMA to assist the parties in the consolidation of peace. With the conclusion of the work of the Joint Commission, there emerged a consensus among the parties — the Government of Angola and União Nacional para a Indepêndencia Total de Angola (UNITA) — that the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol had been completed. Those actors, along with other political parties and members of civil society, have since been engaged in identifying the priorities to move the country from a state of armed conflict towards normalcy.

MPLA-UNITA dialogue

3. It should also be recalled that the political commissions of the ruling Movimento Popular da Libertação de Angola (MPLA) and UNITA held high-level talks in Luanda from 2 to 5 December to discuss issues of national interest, with particular emphasis on a review of the Constitution. In the course of those talks, the parties agreed on four main issues, namely that the President should remain head of State and Government, as well as party leader, the President would appoint provincial Governors, upon the recommendation of the majority party in each province, the legislature would be unicameral, and a National Council would be established in addition to the legislature, as a consultative body in which "traditional rulers" could participate. Those decisions were not supported universally, however. Some political parties argued that the bilateral agreements between MPLA and UNITA had circumvented the Parliament's Constitution Drafting Committee, in which other parties are represented.

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Government of Unity and National Reconciliation

4. On 5 December, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos appointed the Minister of Interior, Fernando da Piedade Dias dos Santos "Nando", as the new Prime Minister of a Government of Unity and National Reconciliation. New Cabinet ministers were subsequently appointed for the interior, finance, petroleum, and energy and water portfolios; the Ministers of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Planning and Public Administration were reappointed. In accordance with an understanding reached between the Government and UNITA, all former UNITA-Renovada Cabinet members were reappointed as representatives of the reunified UNITA.

5. Some opposition parties and members of civil society felt, however, that the new Cabinet did not represent sufficient change. Members of civil society also criticized the reappointment of some senior Government officials who, they alleged, had embezzled and misappropriated funds.

6. On 18 December, the Angolan National Assembly approved the proposed budget for 2003, for some US$ 6 billion, submitted by the newly established Government. While 99 members of Parliament voted for the bill, and none against, 44 members — all UNITA representatives — abstained, stating they had not been consulted on the budget prior to the vote.

Preparations for the elections

7. It should be recalled that the Government had indicated that the next general elections were envisaged to take place in 2004. However, some representatives from both MPLA and UNITA have recently stated that necessary conditions did not yet exist for free and fair elections to take place in the coming year. They proposed that postponing the elections by one or two years could create a more realistic time frame to achieve those national objectives, namely to revise the Constitution, elaborate a new electoral law, establish an independent electoral commission, register eligible voters and resettle or return internally displaced persons and ex-combatants. However, some representatives from both parties, as well as from other political parties, felt that legislative and presidential elections should be held as soon as possible. In his end of year speech, President dos Santos promised to work towards a broad national consensus on fixing the date for the next general elections.

8. Meanwhile, since the completion of the work of the Joint Commission, both the ruling MPLA and UNITA have been working on reorganizing and revitalizing their party structures at provincial and grass-roots levels in preparation for the forthcoming elections. The seventh ordinary session of the 250-member Central Committee of MPLA was held in Luanda on 13 December 2002, under the chairmanship of President dos Santos. Addressing his party, the President stressed the need to focus on economic recovery, including by reducing inflation by the end of 2003, to increase the party's chances of winning the elections.

9. UNITA continues to emphasize its political rehabilitation by highlighting to the public the role it had played in the successful completion of the Lusaka Protocol, pointing out that the international community recognized that role by lifting all sanctions against it. The party took a further step towards national reconciliation when, in early January, several of its representatives publicly apologized for the role of UNITA in the atrocities committed during the protracted conflict. The ninth UNITA party congress is expected to take place in March 2003.

10. Other opposition parties have also started preparing themselves for the next elections and are working to create a more united opposition.

III. Activities of the Mission and the United Nations in support of the consolidation of peace in Angola

11. During the reporting period, UNMA continued to implement its mandated tasks, which included, inter alia, support for the reintegration of ex-combatants, the facilitation and coordination of humanitarian assistance, the provision of technical support for mine action and the protection and promotion of human rights.

Demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants

12. The demobilization, resettlement and reintegration of UNITA ex-combatants has been one of the areas of continued and acute concern and is considered one of the Government's main priorities in order to ensure stability in the country. By the end of January, approximately 90,000 ex-combatants had undergone the registration process, while an estimated 15,000 were still waiting to move to their designated reception areas from the provinces and neighbouring countries. Owing to operational problems, however, the registration process was halted. While the movement of ex-combatants and dependants from reception areas has also decreased significantly with the start of the rainy season, it is expected to pick up again in April 2003.

13. A number of factors continue to hinder the demobilization, resettlement and reintegration process itself, including, in some instances, a politicized ex-combatant population which, at times, has been less than cooperative with the authorities. However, a lack of adequate facilities, inaccessible roads, mine infestation and inadequately prepared resettlement areas have added considerably to delays. A further difficulty is that payments by the Government to ex-combatants have been irregular and not universal. About 20 per cent of ex-combatants are still waiting to be included on the payroll. Resettlement kits are not being delivered to everyone and sensitization campaigns do not take place universally, resulting in instances where communities have expelled resettled ex-combatants, forcing some to return to the reception areas.

14. As a result of those problems and despite the Government's announced intention to close all reception areas by 31 December 2002, only four have actually been closed to date, with 34 reception areas in 16 provinces still open. It should also be noted that the closure of a reception area does not mean that its occupants have been fully resettled; in most cases, they are first placed in transit camps in other provinces. The Government therefore estimates that it may take up to one year to transfer the remaining ex-combatants and their dependants from their present locations to a total of over 600 areas designated for their resettlement.

15. During the period under review, UNMA continued to play a coordinating role, including by ensuring that information on ex-combatants gathered by the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) during the disarmament phase was shared with civilian institutions such as the Instituto de Reinserção Sòcio-Profissional dos Ex-Militares as well as the Ministry of Social Affairs and Reintegration, which assumed responsibility for the demobilization, resettlement and reintegration process on

2 October 2002. As a result of the frequent visits of its staff to the provinces, the Mission has established a central database on the status of demobilization, resettlement and reintegration and UNMA military liaison officers continue to inspect reception areas to collect and assess relevant information.

16. The Technical Group on demobilization, resettlement and reintegration, under the chairmanship of UNMA, continues to integrate and coordinate the activities of the United Nations system in Angola in its support of the demobilization, resettlement and reintegration process. The Group has been coordinating closely with the World Bank, which is preparing to fund a multi-donor resettlement programme for Angola to cover the demobilization of some 167,000 and the payment of reintegration benefits to approximately 108,000 ex-combatants.

17. In late December 2002, the Minister of Finance informed UNMA that the Government was facing financial difficulties in implementing demobilization, resettlement and reintegration. The transport of ex-combatants and their dependants required substantial resources that the Government may not yet be able to finance, and US$ 1.5 million was required to purchase demobilization kits. The Minister requested the support of the international community, in particular the United Nations, to extend assistance in that regard. That request was reiterated by the Minister of Social Affairs and Reintegration in late January 2003.

18. In the meantime, UNMA is still expecting a reply to its letter requesting that the United Nations be represented at the national level — as it is provincially — in the Commission on the Social and Productive Reintegration of Demobilized and Displaced People. Participation in that important Commission will enable UNMA to play a better coordinating role in the demobilization, resettlement and reintegration process.

Humanitarian situation

19. Although the humanitarian situation in the country has become more stable during the last six months, the need for emergency assistance remains pressing in many parts of Angola. Approximately 1.8 million people, including ex-combatants and their family members, currently require food assistance to survive, and between 2.1 and 2.4 million Angolans will be food insecure until the next harvest in April 2003. In mid-January, acute levels of malnutrition were reported in five provinces.

20. In the meantime, mortality rates remained at emergency levels, particularly in remote locations where people do not have regular access to basic health-care services, potable water and appropriate sanitation. Outbreaks of measles and meningitis were reported in at least four provinces, linked to population movements from previously inaccessible areas where vaccination programmes were either infrequent or non-existent.

21. The onset of the seasonal rains, combined with poor road conditions and mine incidents has severely affected humanitarian operations. By mid-January, approximately 445,000 people who had earlier been receiving assistance were inaccessible. Following a series of mine incidents in November and December, operations were shut down or reduced in 13 locations in seven heavily mined provinces. The situation of the populations in those areas was reportedly deteriorating and may become critical unless access can be re-established. In

addition, approximately 200,000 people living in remote locations have yet to be reached by humanitarian agencies.

22. At the same time, the end of hostilities has led to major population movements. During 2002, 1.3 million internally displaced persons returned to 500 communities in 17 provinces, and 85,000 refugees spontaneously returned from neighbouring countries. Basic conditions were in place in 30 per cent of the return sites. However, as many as 900,000 people returned to areas where basic services were not yet in place. In a major initiative to ensure that displaced populations are resettled in appropriate conditions, the Government of Angola issued regulations outlining the norms for the resettlement of displaced populations on 6 December 2002. The Norms and Regulations provide increased legal protection for returnees by specifying the pre-conditions and social targets that must be met during the resettlement and return process. It should be noted that on several occasions during the period when incidents of forced return occurred, the Government took immediate steps to ensure compliance with the Norms and Regulations.

23. According to the Government, more than 2.8 million people were still displaced at the end of 2002, approximately 290,000 of whom continued to live in camps and transit centres. In addition, as many as 400,000 refugees remained in neighbouring countries, that is, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia, the Republic of the Congo and Zambia, as well as Botswana. The Government of Angola has signed repatriation agreements with some of those countries.

24. It is expected that some 1.2 million internally displaced persons, ex-combatants and refugees will return to their areas of origin during 2003, the majority during the first six months. Organized repatriation for approximately 150,000 Angolan refugees in Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo will begin in May 2003.

25. Humanitarian operations will target two key goals during 2003: stabilizing populations in danger and supporting return and resettlement on the basis of the Government's Norms and Regulations. United Nations agencies and partners will undertake initiatives aimed at reducing poverty and creating the conditions for sustainable development in an effort to move out of the emergency phase. In that regard, the United Nations aims to transfer the responsibility for the coordination and delivery of humanitarian assistance progressively to the Government.

Mine action

26. Much of the country remains heavily mined, the problem being most acute in Kuando Kubango, Benguela, Bié, Huambo, Malange, Huila and Moxico provinces, areas where population movements following returns and resettlement have resulted in increased incidents. Those mines pose a severe threat to resettlement and to the free movement of people and goods across the country.

27. The United Nations considers it a priority to integrate mine action effectively into emergency assistance, resettlement, socio-economic recovery and development activities, with a view to facilitating both humanitarian assistance operations and long-term development through strategic mine clearance and demarcation. Most of those activities are undertaken by international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). However, through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations is assisting the national body, the National Demining Institute

(INAD), in its reorganization and creation of national assets to tackle the mine problem. The United Nations also supports the Inter-Sectoral Commission on Demining and Humanitarian Assistance (CNIDAH), the national coordination authority. Comprehensive and integrated mine risk education is being conducted throughout the country under the coordination of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). During the reporting period, a technical adviser was deployed to Luanda to coordinate United Nations mine action activities, including capacity-building, training and resource mobilization efforts for mine action operations.

28. In addition to the information on mine locations collected by UNMA military liaison officers and the records contained in the National Mine Action Database at INAD, a Landmine Impact Survey will be carried out by international NGOs, including Survey Action Centre, which will manage the exercise. That survey, which is being coordinated with CNIDAH, is intended to provide a clear picture on the impact of mine infestation in the country and allow the Government and its partners to prioritize their work more effectively.

Human rights

29. Although war-related violations of human rights have virtually disappeared since the cessation of hostilities, other human rights abuses continue to occur. Violations against war-affected populations, including harassment, looting, extortion, intimidation, physical abuse, rape and arbitrary detention have continued, particularly in areas where State administration is weak or has been extended only recently and where mechanisms for redress remain inadequate. Many of those violations have affected internally displaced persons and have included forced resettlement and return as well as exclusion from social services and humanitarian assistance. A number of violations have also been reported in reception areas, where populations have only limited access to the formal judicial system. Of particular concern are incidents affecting women and children.

30. At the same time, there has been considerable improvement in the institutionalization of human rights at the level of both the Government and civil society, particularly in Luanda. However, much remains to be done to address the problems of police behaviour, in particular in some of the poorer neighbourhoods of the capital. Other areas of concern are the right to education, health and the participation of women in political and professional arenas.

31. UNMA efforts in the protection and promotion of human rights concentrated on the further strengthening of several key activities. In addition to the Human Rights office in Benguela and Kwanza Sul, the Mission established two offices in Malanje and Huambo Provinces and deployed Human Rights Officers for extended periods to previously inaccessible provinces. It assisted the Ministry of Justice in establishing Provincial Human Rights Committees, in order to provide a mechanism for the protection and promotion of human rights where previously no such system existed. UNMA human rights monitors also continued their work in community empowerment and participation, in partnership with local churches and NGOs, to establish protection mechanisms against human rights abuse and discrimination in the provinces and to carry out capacity-building projects.

32. In Luanda, UNMA also focused on sensitization and capacity-building, and on supporting legal and media aid projects related to national reconciliation. It also

helped national authorities to expand the municipal courts and create a "case tracking" programme in the Prosecutor General's office.

33. The importance of UNMA human rights activities in the consolidation of peace in Angola has been widely acknowledged, including by the Government, the civil society and major international stakeholders. It is obvious that those vital activities, including capacity-building, will have to be sustained for a longer period in order for them to be truly effective.

34. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights visited Angola from 15 to 18 January. In his meetings with the Angolan authorities, the High Commissioner stressed the importance of having a National Human Rights Action Plan to ensure that the human rights aspects of the Angolan Constitution and domestic legislation were being implemented. To that end, the establishment of a National Human Rights Commission, which my Special Representative had earlier suggested to the Government, may be useful.

Child protection

35. The benefits of peace have not significantly affected Angola's children, who continue to suffer from adverse humanitarian conditions, inadequate resources in resettlement areas, HIV/AIDS, physical violence and exploitation, sexual and psychological abuse, the lack of education and basic health care and a virtually non-existent juvenile justice system. There are no long-term guarantees to prevent the re-recruitment of former under-age combatants and the issue of girls who were abducted during the conflict still must be resolved. Many children are also the victims of landmines but receive virtually no rehabilitation assistance.

36. With the support of UNICEF and other national and international partners, the Government has started to implement a strategy for the protection of child rights in the reception areas and transit camps, comprising both emergency assistance and projects to reintegrate and rehabilitate children and youth. The Government is also preparing a national campaign against measles and initiating a "back to school" programme. For the first time, the Government expects to submit a report to the May 2003 session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

37. During the reporting period, UNMA continued to raise awareness of children's rights and supported and complemented the child protection work of the Government, UNICEF, NGOs and other actors.

Development activities

38. The economic situation improved slightly, with the inflation rate dropping from an estimated 110 per cent to 106 per cent, and the fiscal deficit at 8.5 per cent during 2002. The availability of locally produced agricultural products has increased in urban areas, as has the movement of people and goods throughout the country. However, with a virtually non-existent infrastructure in the provinces and an overall economy devastated by, among other factors, more than three decades of war, Angola's recovery, reconstruction and long-term development needs remain formidable. The United Nations is expected to assist with major gap-bridging initiatives in order to enable the transition of the country from relief dependency to development and self-reliance.

39. To that end, UNDP, the World Bank and other bilateral and multilateral partners have been collaborating on working out a comprehensive development policy framework; while UNDP recently launched the second phase of its Programme for Institutional Reform and Administrative Modernization, which aims at enhancing the capacity of both the central and local governments. UNDP has also conducted a review of public administration functions with the aim of advising the Government on the functions it should transfer to the public sector. Furthermore, the United Kingdom Department for International Development recently joined UNDP and the World Bank technical assistance teams in preparing an Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Plan.

40. During my meeting with the G-8 States in Kananaskis, Canada, from 27 to 28 June 2002, I identified Angola as one of three countries in Africa most in need of post-conflict and peace-building assistance. The international donors' conference for Angola, which is scheduled for the first part of 2003, should provide an opportunity for the international community to channel its assistance to the country. However, the Angolan Government is aware that it needs to exert more effort in order to allay donors' concerns and to reach understanding with the Bretton Woods institutions. In preparation for that conference, an option under consideration is to convene a meeting with the donors beforehand, which would allow the Government to brief them on its efforts to promote transparency and accountability and on its own financial contributions to the emergency and transitional phases. The United Nations will continue to participate in assisting in the preparation of that conference, as appropriate.

IV. Observations

41. The last year has seen a dramatic change in the situation in Angola. In January 2002 Angola was still a country in deadly conflict — one of the longest-running in Africa — with a history of unsuccessful, though unremitting attempts at achieving a lasting and durable peace. With the conclusion of the work of the Joint Commission at the end of 2002 Angola has firmly placed itself on the path of political, social and economic recovery. For the first time since independence, Angolans can live without fear of a recurrent and devastating war. As the country moves to fulfil its aspirations of nation-building, it is my sincere hope that the Government will consolidate peace and national reconciliation in all parts of its national territory.

42. Since the establishment of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission I (UNAVEM I) in 1988, the United Nations, with the support of the international community, has played a critical role in the peace process through a series of peacekeeping operations, accompanied by peace-building efforts and humanitarian assistance. The sanctions imposed on UNITA, which the Security Council lifted in December 2002, also helped to bring about the desired change, not only because they supplemented national and international efforts to end the war, but also because the United Nations put in place a robust implementation and follow-up monitoring mechanism to ensure their effectiveness.

43. However, even when peace seemed unattainable, the United Nations and the international community continued to believe in the desire for unity among the Angolan people. Massive United Nations resources were invested and I would like to use this opportunity to pay tribute once again to those who lost their lives in the

service of peace in Angola, including my Special Representative, Alioune Blondin Beye, who died in a tragic plane crash in 1998.

44. UNMA has completed its mandated political tasks, as set out in resolution 1433 (2002) of 15 August 2002. The United Nations agencies and programmes have provided essential humanitarian and development assistance throughout the period covered by the mandate of the Mission and will continue to work closely with the Government to implement a post-conflict strategy. However, the residual tasks foreseen under resolution 1433 (2002), including in the areas of human rights, mine action, reintegration and resettlement of ex-combatants, humanitarian assistance, economic recovery and electoral assistance, require continued attention and support.

45. More than 1 million people who have returned to their areas of origin will require aid through at least two harvests before they can hope to become self-sufficient. Adequate funding for humanitarian assistance is essential to ensure that a stable platform for sustainable development is built and I encourage Member States to support generously the 2003 Consolidated Appeal, which calls for US$ 384 million to implement 166 projects.

46. The establishment of a reliable and self-sustaining national mine-action capacity still depends on technical and financial assistance from the international community. The national reconciliation effort will also require continued support, particularly for the reintegration and resettlement of ex-combatants and the preparations for elections. Reaching a general national consensus on a date for the forthcoming general elections will be an important step towards moving that process forward. In addition, human rights capacity-building requires sustained support and a sound child protection strategy needs to be developed.

47. In the light of the above, I requested my Special Representative to consult with the Government of Angola and other national and international stakeholders to determine how the United Nations could continue to assist the Angolan Government and people in the consolidation of peace in the country. Those discussions, including with President dos Santos, took place in Luanda from 18 January to 1 February 2003. As a result, I propose that the United Nations Resident Coordinator resume the responsibility for United Nations activities in the country upon the conclusion of the UNMA mandate on 15 February 2003, including assisting the Government's efforts to implement the residual tasks under resolution 1433 (2002). The Office of the Resident Coordinator will be strengthened for this transitional period by adding a unit under his supervision to address the residual tasks, for which additional resources may be required.

48. In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my Special Representative, Ibrahim Gambari, for his efforts to bring to a conclusion this important phase of United Nations involvement in Angola. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the United Nations staff who have served, and continue to serve, the cause of peace and development in Angola for their tireless efforts and exemplary dedication.

United Nations S/2003/159

Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2003
English
Original: French

Letter dated 27 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Belgium has decided, pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1386 (2001) and 1444 (2002), to join in carrying out the tasks entrusted to the International Security Assistance Force, by sending a 160-person contingent to Afghanistan.

The majority of the troops will be assigned to internal security duties at the Kabul airport. A smaller number of troops will participate in the operation of the headquarters of the International Security Assistance Force, the airport platform and the support hospital, and will provide logistical support for the contingent. The Belgian unit will have a six-month mandate.

In addition, Belgium is offering at the same time, but outside the framework of the International Security Assistance Force, 400 flight hours for the transport of humanitarian supplies. The modalities of Belgian participation will be determined in consultation with the command of the Force.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a Security Council document

(*Signed*) Jean **de Ruyt**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-24153 (E) 070203 070203

United Nations S/2003/160

Security Council

Distr.: General
7 February 2003
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 6 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 6 February 2003.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

03-24184 (E) 200203 200203

Annex to the identical letters dated 6 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Activities of the IAEA and UNMOVIC inspection teams in Iraq

Inspection activities on 6 February 2003

I. Interviews

UNMOVIC requested an interview with a specialist who was notified by the National Monitoring Directorate which encouraged him to have the interview. He agreed to a private interview (without a witness). The interview took place at the Burj al-Hayat Hotel and lasted about three and a half hours.

II. IAEA inspection team

1. A single inspector left the Canal Hotel at 9 a.m. and went to the closed-down Salman site to observe the process of transferring equipment and barrels to a storage facility of the Iraqi Atomic Energy Organization. The mission lasted three hours after which the inspector returned to the Canal Hotel.

2. A group of two inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 9.15 a.m. and went to the Shaykhali warehouses belonging to companies of the Military Industrialization Corporation, the Ministry of Housing and Construction, the Electricity Corporation and the Iraqi Atomic Energy Organization 25 kilometres south of Baghdad. The group checked and weighed the quantities of Fomblin oil in the warehouses and the laboratory and inspected the buildings containing destroyed reactors. The mission lasted two hours after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

3. A group of four inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 9.10 a.m. and made a radiological survey of a number of areas including a construction materials transport garage in Jurf al-Naddaf belonging to the Ministry of Trade, the 7 Nisan warehouses belonging to the Agricultural Supplies Company, as well as some lorries that were parked in front of the industrial quarter on the Baghdad-Kut road, and in front of the Suwayrah silo, and in front of and inside the workshop of the State Seed Trading and Production Company. The group also made a radiological survey of lorries proceeding along the Baghdad-Kut road and close to the Supply and Transportation Office.

III. UNMOVIC inspection team (chemical)

A team of six inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 8.45 a.m. and went to the State Water and Sewerage Commission belonging to the Ministry of the Interior. The team interviewed the director-general of the Commission and asked for information about the Commission and its work. The team asked questions about the limits of the Commission's responsibility and whether its responsibilities included the Kurdistan governorates, whether the Commission had quality control laboratories, whether

chlorine gas was used in a single stage or in two stages, what were the sources of chlorine gas, what quantities were consumed in 2001 and 2002, what sites belonged to the Commission and what tests were made in the Commission's laboratory. The mission lasted three and a half hours after which the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

IV. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

1. A group of six inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and went to the Abraj Alcohol Company, a private-sector company in Khan Bani Sa`d. On arrival, the team interviewed the director of the company and then inspected the stores, the fermentation area, the maintenance workshop and the distillation area. The mission lasted one hour after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

2. A group of six inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 8.40 a.m. and went to the Teaching Laboratories in the Bab al-Mu`azzam district. The group interviewed the director of the laboratories and asked him questions about the number of employees, the forms of cooperation with other bodies and the standard of the students trained at the laboratories. The group also asked questions about the types of quality tests, the means of diagnosis of viral and hereditary diseases, whether there were cases of malignant anthrax and how cholera was diagnosed. After that the group inspected all the laboratories, the culture media storage areas and the tunnel linking the hospitals of the complex. The mission lasted three hours after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

V. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

1. A group of eight inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and went to the Ibn al-Haytham site which belongs to the Karamah State Company, a company of the Military Industrialization Corporation. The group interviewed officials at the site, asking them about guidance and control systems, about the activities of the site and about production procedures and rockets at the complex. After that the group inspected all the buildings at the site, taking photographs of some of them from the outside. The mission lasted four hours after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

2. A team of four inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and went to the Military Engineering College which belongs to the Ministry of Defence. The group interviewed the commandant of the college, asking him about the work done at the college and its objectives, what skills were taught, what diplomas were awarded by the college and the college's relations with industrial projects. The group then inspected all the premises and stores of the college. The mission lasted three hours after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

VI. UNMOVIC joint inspection team

The team of eight inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 8.25 a.m. and went to the Air Defence Missile Unit in Habbaniyah which belongs to the Ministry of Defence. The team interviewed the commandant of the unit, asking him about the number of

covered storage areas, the number of outdoor storage areas and the types of missiles stored. The team then split into four groups which inspected all the storage facilities and areas, as well as the dumping site and the destroyed areas. During the inspection, the team used a chemical pollution detection device and took samples from inside the warehouses. The mission lasted four hours after which the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

VII. UNMOVIC joint inspection team in Mosul

The team of 13 inspectors left the Ninawa Palace Hotel at 8.30 a.m. and went to the Arab Company for Chemicals and Detergents, a mixed sector company located in Baiji, 250 kilometres north of Baghdad. The inspectors requested a site map and production records for the preceding four years and compared them with the statements made to the team. The mission lasted two hours after which the team returned to the Ninawa Palace Hotel in Mosul.

United Nations S/2003/161

Security Council

Distr.: General
10 February 2003
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 10 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I am transmitting to you a letter dated 9 February 2003 from Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the television interview with His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, with Mr. Tony Benn, a British former Labour Member of Parliament and Minister. The letter contains a full clarification of the position of Iraq with respect to the implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

03-24395 (E) 200203 200203

Annex to the letter dated 10 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the details of the television interview with Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, with Mr. Tony Benn, a British former Labour Member of Parliament and Minister, which was published in the news media on 4 February 2003. It contains a full and accurate clarification of the essence of Iraq's position with respect to the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and also concerning the allegations made against Iraq.

The President of the Republic of Iraq clarified Iraq's position with respect to Security Council resolution 1441 (2002) and other Security Council resolutions relating to disarmament. The President said: "Iraq has no weapons of mass destruction whatsoever. We challenge anyone who claims that we have to bring forward any supporting evidence and present it to public opinion." He added that: "If the purpose is to make sure that Iraq is free of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons [the inspectors] can do that. These weapons are not aspirin tablets which a person can hide in his pocket. These are weapons, weapons of mass destruction and it is therefore easy to establish whether Iraq has or does not have chemical, biological and nuclear weapons. We have said many times before, and we say it again today, that Iraq is free of such weapons."

The President also stated that it is in Iraq's interest to facilitate the mission of the inspectors to find the truth and he cautioned against the attempt by certain parties to use the inspections as a pretext for aggression, referring to the dangers of the non-respect by the United States of America and the United Kingdom for the Charter of the United Nations and their headlong rush towards war and the destruction of others. The President also called for real respect for the principles of the Charter based on the distinction between truth and falsehood rather than on opportunism and force, recalling that truth is the basis of human relations. He also called for the approach involving aggressive power in international relations to be replaced by cooperation in order to ensure peace and security on the basis of justice for all humanity.

In reply to a question from Mr. Tony Benn concerning the allegations of Iraq's relationship with the al-Qa'idah organization the President said: "I wish to tell you plainly and, through you, to tell anyone who is listening and wants to know, that we have no relationship with al-Qa'idah".

The positions stated by the President of the Republic are a clear exposition of Iraq's policy and positions. His statements are an excellent response to those who make empty accusations about alleged activities involving weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, or about Iraq's lack of political will to cooperate with the inspectors, or about Iraq's alleged relationship with al-Qa'idah. When the leader of Iraq says something, he means it.

I am transmitting herewith for your information the text of the interview.

(*Signed*) Naji **Sabri**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq

Meeting between President Saddam Hussein and Mr. Tony Benn, former British Cabinet Minister, on 3 February 2003

Mr. Tony Benn: Peace and the mercy of God be upon you.

The President: Peace and the mercy and blessing of God be upon you.

Mr. Tony Benn: Shall I begin now?

The President: Before you begin to ask questions, I must welcome you to Baghdad.

Mr. Tony Benn: Iraq is the cradle of our civilization, the cradle of human civilization. My coming here is coloured by the perception and recollection of historical matters, of the history of Iraq and of the contributions made by Iraqis to building human civilization. But the main reason I have come to meet you in Iraq is to consider matters with you in the hope that you will help to show us ways of achieving peace. I remember the rigours of war and was witness to a distressing war in which I lost a brother and many relatives. I never wish to see another war in my time. There are millions of people all over the world who do not want to see a war and I therefore believe that your agreement to this televised meeting is very important. I hope you will help me by telling the world something significant and positive about the situation in which we find ourselves.

The President: First of all, welcome to Baghdad. You are well aware of the role that Iraqis have set themselves, inspired by their history, their civilization and the role they have played in human history. But in order for that role to prosper and bear fruit, it is necessary for there to be peace. That being so, just as Iraqis are committed to their own rights, they also consider the rights of mankind as a whole, and just as they want peace, they believe that humanity as a whole also needs peace and they know that, in order for them to play their civilizing and humanitarian role in accordance with their beliefs, they need peace, for without peace they will face many obstacles that will prevent them from playing their role in terms of their civilization, their human nature and their beliefs.

Mr. Tony Benn: Mr. President, permit me to ask you some questions to which the entire world is awaiting the answer. These questions will be simple and direct but if you help us by answering them, your response will help you and will support the peace campaign we are conducting.

The first question is: does Iraq have weapons of mass destruction?

The President: You have had dealings with Iraq, and many of your own countrymen have had dealings with it, and in recent years you have visited Iraq more than once and have got to know Iraqi officials as well as Iraqi citizens; you have seen them with your own eyes and you may have met some of them.

Before 1990, Iraq had joint interests and extensive dealings with the United Kingdom. For that reason, and quite apart from Iraq's historical background, any fair-minded person could know, from the evidence and from a consideration of Iraqi history, that Iraqi officials, over the course of 34 years — for they did not come to power a short time before but had been in positions of authority for over 34 years and they had wide-ranging dealings with the outside world — that Iraqi officials, when they say something, their word can be relied on. A short while ago, when you asked me whether I wished to consider the questions before you put them to me

directly, I said that I did not wish to consider them so that we should not waste time by considering them twice and I left it up to you to ask whatever questions you wished directly and immediately so that my answers would not be artificial. The purpose is not to see how we can evade the issue by giving prepared answers to the questions but how to say what is in our minds and hearts and what is part of our planning and policy. I am telling you, and through you the British people and all the voices of peace throughout the world: we say the truth as it is and I am therefore telling you, as I have said on more than one occasion, that Iraq has no weapons of mass destruction whatsoever. We challenge anyone who claims that we have to bring forward any supporting evidence and present it to public opinion.

Mr. Tony Benn: Mr. President, I have another question which is also being raised in the media: does Iraq have links with al-Qa'ida?

The President: If we had a relationship with al-Qa'ida and believed in that relationship we would not be ashamed to admit it. Therefore I wish to tell you plainly, and, through you, to tell anyone who is listening and who wants to know, that we have no relationship with al-Qa'ida.

Mr. Tony Benn: Another question, Mr. President. I should like you to permit me to ask it. It is related to the inspectors. Your answers a short while ago made the position of Iraq entirely clear to me but there appear to be difficulties, or there are reports of the existence of certain difficulties, between Iraq and the inspectors. I should like you to speak about these difficulties and say whether you think they will be overcome after the forthcoming return of Mr. Blix and Mr. ElBaradei to Baghdad.

The President: You are aware that every major activity inevitably encounters some minor incidental difficulties. You have been following the subject of the inspectors and of the resolutions that have been adopted concerning Iraq and you certainly have an opinion and a view as to whether or not these resolutions have anything to do with international law. However, they have been adopted by the Security Council. These resolutions, regardless of whether or how they are implemented, or of the motivation behind their adoption, could lead to a situation of peace or of war. It is therefore a critical situation. There is also the injustice that has been inflicted on the Iraqi people for the past 13 years as a result of the blockade. You know the details and the degree of harm suffered by Iraqis, including children and the elderly, as a result of the shortage of food and medicines, and in other ways. We are thus facing a critical situation. That being so, it is not to be expected that there would be no complaints concerning minor and insignificant issues. Some of them may be connected with matters that are major issues as far as we are concerned and in terms of how we view matters. The Iraqis who are concerned with this subject may therefore complain about the conduct of the inspectors, and they do indeed complain. It is also possible that some inspectors may complain, either for minor reasons of practicality or because of their preconceptions about Iraqis. But every fair-minded person knows that, as regards Iraqi responsibilities, Iraq has been scrupulously complying with resolution 1441 (2002) and also implementing it scrupulously.

However, there remains the question of who raised objections against Iraq or, if Iraq raised objections as to the means of applying the Security Council resolutions, whether the purpose was to achieve peace or to take the questions raised, and any differences that were brought up, as a reason, a pretext and a cover for war or for a disagreement that might lead to war.

As far as Iraq is concerned, when it raises objections against those responsible for having the resolutions of the Security Council implemented, it has no intention of pushing matters towards war. War is not in Iraq's interest and no Iraqi, whether an official or otherwise, has expressed the wish to go to war.

So this brings us to the question that should be put to the other side, namely whether or not the inspectors are looking for a pretext for saying that they have reached a point at which they are obliged to wage war against Iraq. If the purpose is to make sure that Iraq is free of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, then they can do that. These weapons are not aspirin tablets which a person can hide in his pocket. These are weapons, weapons of mass destruction and it is therefore easy to establish whether Iraq has or does not have chemical, biological and nuclear weapons.

We have said many times before, and we say it again today, that Iraq is free of such weapons. If the intention of resolution 1441 (2002), as our friends and others have been telling us, was to enable the Security Council to ascertain whether Iraq had or had not produced weapons of this kind in the absence of the inspectors since 1998 ... well, the inspectors came to Iraq and we agreed to go along with resolution 1441 (2002) so as to show to the whole world that Iraq is free of weapons of mass destruction.

So, when Iraq objects to the conduct of the inspection teams or others concerned with the implementation of the resolution, its purpose is not to put obstacles in their way to prevent them from getting to the truth. It is in our interest to facilitate their mission to find the truth.

There remains the question whether the other side wants to get to the truth or whether it wants to make any situation, statement or argument into a pretext for aggression. If those concerned want this, that is within their power. The super-Powers and large States can create a pretext any day to claim that Iraq has failed to implement resolution 1441 (2002) just as they said earlier that Iraq had not implemented the previous resolutions. Now, apparently, after this long period of time, it appears that Iraq had complied with the resolutions with which they claimed it had not complied. The proof of this is that they are now concentrating on the latest resolution and not on the previous ones.

I have answered you at length, so please bear with me. This is the only time I have met with the outside media and, in order to inform you fully of the situation I wish to talk about, I have to speak in somewhat long sentences.

Mr. Tony Benn: Mr. President, if you will permit me I shall broaden out the previous question to cover the relations between Iraq and the United Nations and the prospect for peace because, as I said, I belong to a generation that witnessed the horrors of war and I witnessed the signing of the Charter of the United Nations. I clearly recall the preamble to the Charter which still rings in my ears which says: "We, the peoples of the United Nations, determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind ...".

As I recall these words, which I have heard and read, I ask myself whether, with all the difficulties we are now witnessing, you think it possible for the United Nations to attain this objective which it set itself for the benefit of mankind, and not just for the benefit of Iraq. It is true that there are now problems of the sanctions and

the resolutions against Iraq but in fact there is a more important question with regard to the relationship with the United Nations and there is a question that must be asked, namely whether we, the people of the world, can use this Organization, with all its imperfections, in the service of mankind. I think that your opinion on this matter will be of great importance if it were broadcast in the information media.

The President: The principle to which you referred is to be found in the United Nations Charter. As you know, Iraq was one of the founders of the Charter, or rather among its first signatories. This is a fine humanitarian principle. I do not think that there is a single normal person, one who respects his people and has its well-being and security at heart, who respects mankind and has its well-being and security at heart, who does not believe in this principle. But, as politicians, we represent our people in the same way as any other signatory. We must ask all those who signed, or rather all those who played a major role in bringing the Charter into existence, foremost among them the major States, whether they signed the Charter in response to the mindset that was one of the causes of the Second World War or the two world wars, or whether they believed in this principle and had in mind in that context the state of affairs that now belongs to the past, and had it in mind also for the future. Did they want that for the future or was that principle shaped in the light of the psychological impact of the two world wars?

It seems to me that the representatives of some of the major States and super-Powers no longer respect this principle. If we consider the representatives of two major States, namely the United States of America and the United Kingdom, what do they say? How do they behave? And how do they speak of war and peace? And in what language? In our view they are motivated by war rather than by what they say about their responsibilities for peace. And when they speak of their responsibility for peace, what they are doing is accusing others. They say that they are defending peace but what they want is to destroy others because they are defending peace in the interest of their people. You know as well as I do that what they are saying is not true. Yes, the world could apply this principle if it accorded it genuine respect not based on opportunism and power but on right and wrong, in other words based on the right to confront wrong. When we make truth the basis of our human relations we are respecting this principle and adherence to it becomes simple because anyone violating the principle will be unable to conceal the fact and will be exposed to public opinion.

Mr. Tony Benn: Mr. President, your analysis is very clear. I am an optimist and I think that principles are of enduring value and that we must therefore try to bring the United Nations back to its principles.

Now permit me to turn to another subject, the subject of oil. There are many people who believe that the present conflict, the present crisis, is about oil and I should like you to say something about this matter and about your view of the development of Iraq's enormous oil reserves, first for the benefit of Iraq and next for the needs of mankind as a whole. I should also like you to be so kind as to say a little about the aid programmes offered in recent years by Iraq to the States of the third world in terms of its oil resources.

The President: When we speak of oil in this region of the world we must certainly not forget that we are part of the world: we sell to it and we buy from it and we share common interests — economic, cultural, scientific and technical and in every aspect of life.

So, we do not think it is wise for anyone, even those who have resources like the resources of the United States of America, to think that they can do without the world, unless they are not living on the same planet. But if they are on the same planet and speak of the possibility of doing without the rest of the world, the least you can say is that such a statement shows a lack of judgement.

The principles which we were just talking about, and which you are talking about, such as the principles of justice, freedom, the rights of others and one's own rights, ... when we are talking about that, we are doing so within the framework of what we have learned, what God has taught us, each according to his religion. When we speak of the importance of cooperation with respect to the world, it is not necessary for everyone to recall the rights of others while recalling their interests. That being so, it appears that the authorities in the United States of America are motivated by a kind of aggression against the people of the region that has been evident for more than a decade. The first factor in that context is the role played by influential people in successive United States administrations in the decisions taken by the President of the United States based on sympathy with the Zionist entity that was created at the expense of the rights of Palestine, the security and humanity of the Palestinian people. Such people force the hand of the United States administration by claiming that the Arabs are a danger to Israel, without remembering their obligation to God and how the Palestinian people were driven out of their homeland. Successive United States administrations have been led down a path of hostility and aggression against the people of this region, including the Iraqi people who are part of it.

The second factor is that these people and others have been telling the United States administrations, particularly the current one, that if you want to control the world you have to control the oil. The most important requirement for controlling the oil is the destruction of Iraq and of the will of the people of Iraq since the Iraqis are committed to, and believe in, the principles of nationality and are committed to their rights as enshrined in the United Nations Charter and in international law.

It seems that this analysis has appealed to some United States administrations, particularly the current one, namely that if they control oil in the Middle East, they control the world. They could thus tell China what rate of growth is necessary for its economy to grow, what approaches should be allowed in its education system, and they could do the same to France, Germany and perhaps Russia and Japan. They could even do the same to the United Kingdom and its friends if its oil was not sufficient to meet its needs.

So it seems to me that one of the main motives of the hostility of the current United States administration is the wish to control the world. On the basis of this analysis, which has now become clear to the whole world, some officials in the United States administration have started to announce, in one form or another, that one of their main objectives is the control of oil in the Middle East region.

The question is why should the word "control", and the means of control and the policy of control and hostility — why should that not be replaced by the word "cooperation". So who ensures the ability of the United States to control the oil of the Middle East through aggression, and through destruction and causing injury to peoples? Why do people not say, as they are entitled to do, that the hostility of United States administrations against the region, if it continues, will lead to widespread enmity and resistance as a result of which it will not be possible to

develop the oil fields or oil production or extensive economic cooperation between us as members of the human family when there is war, killing, destruction and death? Surely every one of us is entitled to ask questions and, indeed, to say outright that this approach will not lead anywhere and is not even in the interest of the United States or its people. It may serve some short-term interests and the interests of some influential forces in the United States, but we cannot say that it serves the long-term interests of the American people or those of other nations.

I would add that over 10 years ago we made this analysis of the interests of United States administrations and of the pressures exerted on those administrations to move in that direction by forces with their own agendas. Unfortunately, there was no one at that time who shared our analysis but now I think that there are many who do so. If our analysis is right, surely Iraq deserves a humanitarian prize from all people on Earth, including those of the United States and the United Kingdom, instead of being subjected to criminal aggression and destruction committed by those involved against Iraq and the Iraqi people.

Mr. Tony Benn: Mr. President, I thank you first of all for your outstanding generosity in allowing me such a long time. However, I have one last question. There are tens of millions, maybe hundreds of millions, of people in the United States and the United Kingdom and Europe, and throughout the world, who want and hope for a peaceful outcome to this problem. They are the real Americans, the real British, the real French and the real Germans because they think of the world in terms of their children. I have 10 children and grandchildren who have Irish, Indian, Scottish and Jewish blood, some of my grandchildren are Muslims. For me, politics is about ensuring the future survival of those children. I wonder whether you could say something to the peace movement of the world that might help to advance the cause they have in mind.

The President: First of all, we very much admire the development of the peace movement around the world in the last few years. We pray to almighty God to empower all those people throughout the world who are working against war and for the cause of peace and security on the basis of justice for all. Through you we say to the British people that Iraqis do not hate the British people. Before 1991, Iraq had normal relations with the United Kingdom just as it had normal relations with the United States. At that time, the British Government had no reason to speak ill of Iraq as we hear some voices doing these days.

We hope the British people will tell those who hate Iraqis and wish them harm that there is no justification for this. I am telling you, and I ask you to tell the British people, because they are brave, that Iraqis are also brave. Every member of a deep-rooted civilization throughout history has inevitably been brave. I am aware that all peoples of the world want the world to live in peace, and so do the Iraqi people. But just as the world endeavours to safeguard its rights, so the Iraqi people strive to safeguard their rights and to ensure that the world respects them just as they respect the world.

I also ask you to tell the British people that if the Iraqis are subjected to humiliation and aggression they will fight courageously and steadfastly just as the British people did in the Second World War defending their country courageously and steadfastly, each in their own way.

The Iraqis do not want war but if aggression is inflicted on them and if their dignity is offended, they will defend their country, their dignity, the sovereignty and their security.

God willing, humanity and the people of the world will not be let down by our humane outlook and conduct and by the courage we display in defence of the principles, the right and the justice in which we believe.

Mr. Tony Benn: Mr. President, thank you very much. Our meeting has been very important because you have, in your own personal words, expressed your views to the world which will hear and see you. It's my hope that there will be no war.

The President: God willing! God willing!

Mr. Tony Benn: I have seen the women of Iraq, and I have seen the children of Iraq playing in the streets, and I know that those children will die if war comes. That's why I hope war will not come. I hope that your participation today will make a contribution towards achieving peace because your participation has been of the greatest importance. I therefore thank you, not only in my own name but also in the name of all those who are working for the cause of peace in Iraq and throughout the world. Thank you.

The President: Convey my greetings to all, convey my greetings to the heroes of the peace movement. I am pleased to have met you and to have seen you in such good health and looking so youthful.

Mr. Tony Benn: Next year I shall be 80 years old but I believe that work brings me physical fitness. I left Parliament two years ago in order to devote my time to politics.

The President: In other words, to the humanitarian principles we have talked about.

(Iraqi News Agency)

United Nations S/2003/162

Security Council

Distr.: General
10 February 2003
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 10 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the letter of 6 November 2002 addressed to you by the Minister for Foreign Affairs (S/2002/1237), I am pleased to inform you that on 3 February 2003 a delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq handed over to a delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait the Kuwait Museum archives, which contain records of Kuwaiti antiquities and archaeological sites in Kuwait; plans and maps of archaeological sites; and pictures, slides and studies on antiquities and archaeological sites in Kuwait. The delegation also handed over to the Kuwaiti side a collection of items of Kuwaiti property including a painting by Picasso, two pistols given as gifts to the Amir of Kuwait, five swords of the Amiri Guard, a rug and other acquisitions recently found by the Iraqi customs authorities.

The hand-over of the Kuwaiti archives and property took place within Iraqi territory at the headquarters of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) at Umm al Qasr port under the supervision of Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse, Senior Adviser to the Force Commander of UNIKOM, who has been charged by you with facilitating the return of property. The Iraqi and Kuwaiti delegations signed the minutes of the hand-over of both the returned archives and the returned property, as did your representative. We annex hereto copies of the two sets of minutes of the hand-over. The operation of returning the archives and the other items took place in a positive and professional spirit that made it possible to complete the mission expeditiously.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the annexed list of returned items circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-24443 (E) 130203 140203

Annex to the letter dated 10 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Annex A

Hand-over procedures for the return of documents from Iraq to Kuwait

1. Following consultations with representatives of Iraq and Kuwait the following procedural arrangements were agreed upon for the return of documents by Iraq to Kuwait.

2. The responsibility for returning the documents rested with Iraq, while Kuwait would be responsible for receiving them. The United Nations through Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse, Senior Adviser of the United Nations Iraq/Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) will facilitate the hand-over operation. At no time will the property be in the custody of the United Nations.

3. The list provided by Iraq and made available to Kuwait, a copy of which is attached (in Annex C), will provide the basis for the transfer of the documents.

4. The venue for the hand-over will be UNIKOM HQ on the Iraqi side of the DMZ.

5. The hand-over is scheduled for 3 February 2003 beginning at 10:00 am.

6. The authorized representatives of Iraq will truck the documents to UNIKOM HQ. There, the authorized representatives of Kuwait would receive the documents and transport them to the Kuwaiti side of the DMZ.

7. For practical reasons, all procedures, both oral and written would be carried out in the English language.

8. To confirm the transfer of the items, representatives of Iraq and Kuwait will sign the minutes of the hand-over of documents of Kuwaiti property by the Government of the Republic of Iraq to the Government of the State of Kuwait and Mr. Tadesse, the facilitator, will verify the signature on behalf of the United Nations.

9. UNIKOM will provide the necessary logistical and security support for the conduct of the operation.

10. The two sides reserve the right to make any observation on the hand-over.

03/02/03 03/02/03

Annex B

MINUTES OF THE HAND-OVER OF DOCUMENTS OF KUWAITI PROPERTY BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT

1) Pursuant to the letters of the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan to his Excellency Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq and His Excellency Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait respectively, dated 17 July 2002, regarding the re-establishment of the mechanism for return of Kuwaiti property by Iraq and the code cables from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations 3910 and 3922 both dated 31 December 2002 as well as the subsequent discussions the facilitator Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse, Senior Adviser of the United Nations Iraq/Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), held with the officials of the ministries of Foreign Affairs of the two countries in particular on the modalities for facilitating the return Kuwaiti documents from Iraq to Kuwait;

2) It is hereby certified that on Monday 3 February 2003 at UNIKOM HQ in Umm Qasr on the Iraqi side of the Demilitarized Zone the Government of the State of Kuwait accepted delivery of its documents returned by the Government of the Republic of Iraq that are listed in Annex C hereto;

3) The hand-over of the documents was carried out in the framework of the documents referred to above and the ten-point procedural arrangements agreed by Iraq and Kuwait, attached as Annex A;

4) In acknowledgement of the delivery of the documents the representatives of Iraq and Kuwait at the hand-over site signed these minutes.

Signed on 3 February 2003.

For the Government of the
Republic of Iraq

Name: Mowafak A. AYOUB

Title: Councilor
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

For the Government of the
State of Kuwait

Name: Mahmoud BOUSHAHRI

Title: Brigadier-General

Annex B

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly appointed representative of the United Nations, hereby certifies that the above signatures were affixed in my presence.

Date: 3 February 2003

03/02/01

Representative of the United Nations

Name: Tesfaye TADESSE

Title: Senior Adviser

Annex C

DOCUMENTS TO BE RETURNED TO KUWAIT

1. Journal of the Hellenistic temple (3)
2. Journal of the Faylaka excavations
3. Journal of the Kuwait National Museum (Nos. 1-104)
4. Album on the ceremonial opening of the exhibition "Masterpieces of Islamic Art" at the Hermitage Museum, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
5. Album on the latest Soviet studies of Arab and Islamic civilization
6. Album on the Hermitage exhibition (2)
7. Tape of a lecture on the solar system (planetarium)
8. Audiotape on space and time
9. Box file containing plans of the Kuwait (National) Museum (5)
10. Journal of the Kuwait National Museum on the Faylaka excavations, 1201 to 1597
11. Plans of Faylaka island: the palaces and Al-Dayf properties (lit: "properties of the guest")
12. Plans of Umm al-Naml island (2)
13. Studies on miscellaneous subjects (6)
14. Notebook
15. Photographs of Kuwaiti antiquities (32 envelopes)
16. Personal photographs of Kuwaiti landmarks (a number)
17. Slides of Kuwait antiquities (a number)
18. Plans (2)
19. Green file containing pictures of Kuwaiti antiquities (7)
20. Ampex tapes (9)
21. Metal drawers containing pictures of Kuwaiti antiquities (7)
22. Slides of miscellaneous Kuwaiti antiquities, a large number of pictures and seven boxes of slides

Annex C

23. Circular metal boxes containing slides (14)

24. Cardboard carton with metal box and bag containing slides

25. Small cartons (2) containing miscellaneous large-format slides

26. Sets of slide boxes (21)

27. Study on traditional-style Kuwaiti houses

28. Study on the traditional-style house of Shaykh Ghazzalah

29. Study on traditional-style house located on the Nafaq road

30. Ministry of the Interior project (plans and pictures)

31. Study of a project on traditional-style houses (plans and pictures)

32. Plans of the Kuwait National Museum (20)

33. Recorded cassette tape (15)

03/02/03

03/02/03

Annex A

Hand-over procedures for the return of items from Iraq to Kuwait

1. Following consultations with representatives of Iraq and Kuwait the following procedural arrangements were agreed upon for the return of items by Iraq to Kuwait.

2. The responsibility for returning the items rested with Iraq, while Kuwait would be responsible for receiving them. The United Nations through Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse, Senior Adviser of the United Nations Iraq/Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) will facilitate the hand-over operation. At no time will the property be in the custody of the United Nations.

3. The list provided by Iraq and made available to Kuwait, a copy of which is attached (in Annex C), will provide the basis for the transfer of the documents.

4. The venue for the hand-over will be UNIKOM HQ on the Iraqi side of the DMZ.

5. The hand-over is scheduled for 3 February 2003 beginning at 10:00 am.

6. The authorized representatives of Iraq will truck the items to UNIKOM HQ. There, the authorized representatives of Kuwait would receive the items and transport them to the Kuwaiti side of the DMZ.

7. For practical reasons, all procedures, both oral and written would be carried out in the English language.

8. To confirm the transfer of the items, representatives of Iraq and Kuwait will sign the minutes of the hand-over of documents of Kuwaiti property by the Government of the Republic of Iraq to the Government of the State of Kuwait and Mr. Tadesse, the facilitator, will verify the signature on behalf of the United Nations.

9. UNIKOM will provide the necessary logistical and security support for the conduct of the operation.

10. The two sides reserve the right to make any observations on the hand-over.

03/02/03 M. AYOUB 03/02/03 02.03.03

Annex B

MINUTES OF THE HAND-OVER OF ITEMS OF KUWAITI PROPERTY BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT

1) Pursuant to the letters of the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan to his Excellency Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq and His Excellency Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait respectively, dated 17 July 2002, regarding the re-establishment of the mechanism for return of Kuwaiti property by Iraq and discussions the facilitator Mr. Tesfaye Tadesse, Senior Adviser of the United Nations Iraq/Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), held with the representatives of the two countries in particular on the modalities for facilitating the return of Kuwaiti items from Iraq to Kuwait;

2) It is hereby certified that on Monday 3 February 2003 at UNIKOM HQ in Umm Qasr on the Iraqi side of the Demilitarized Zone the Government of the State of Kuwait accepted delivery of its items returned by the Government of the Republic of Iraq that are listed in Annex C hereto;

3) The hand-over of the items was carried out in the framework of the documents referred to above and the ten-point procedural arrangements agreed by Iraq and Kuwait, attached as Annex A;

4) In acknowledgement of the delivery of the items the representatives of Iraq and Kuwait at the hand-over site signed these minutes.

Signed on 3 February 2003.

For the Government of the
Republic of Iraq

Name: Mowafak A. AYOUB

Title: Councilor
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

For the Government of the
State of Kuwait

Name: Mahmoud BOUSHAHRI

Title: Brigadier-General

Annex B

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly appointed representative of the United Nations, hereby certifies that the above signatures were affixed in my presence.

Date: 3 February 2003

030210203

Representative of the United Nations

Name: Tesfaye TADESSE

Title: Senior Adviser

Annex C

ITEMS TO BE RETURNED TO KUWAIT

1. Mechanical carpet comprising a picture of the Amir of Kuwait
2. Art picture by Picasso (picture of naked women) (without frame)
3. Swords of the Amiri arms stores (5) (one without housing)
4. Porcelain plate with the logo of Kuwait
5. Rifles (2), gifts by the Spanish King and the Queen of England to the Amir of Kuwait
6. Coffee pot

08/02/03. 03/02/03 M. Ayoub 03.02.03

United Nations S/2003/163

Security Council

Distr.: General
10 February 2003

Original: English

Letter dated 10 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, I have the honour to refer to my previous letter dated 6 February 2003 (S/2003/153) concerning the request by the Non-Aligned Movement for an open debate in the Security Council following the report of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency on 14 February 2003.

Further to that request, and in the light of the importance that the international community clearly attaches to developments in the Security Council regarding inspections in Iraq, States members of the Non-Aligned Movement have expressed their expectation that the Council will continue to display the commendable transparency that it has shown thus far. On behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, I therefore respectfully request that the Security Council consider convening an open briefing for Dr. Blix and Dr. ElBaradei to present their report in the presence of the wider United Nations membership on 14 February 2003.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dumisani S. **Kumalo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-24294 (E) 100203

S/2003/164

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United Nations S/2003/164

Security Council

Distr.: General
10 February 2003

Original: English

Letter dated 10 February 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of France, Germany and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

We would like to bring to the attention of the members of the Security Council that, during the recent visit of the President of the Russian Federation to Berlin and Paris, a joint declaration by the Russian Federation, Germany and France was issued on the situation in Iraq (see annex).

We should like to emphasize that the ideas expressed in that declaration are not limited to the three signatories. We therefore appeal to other Council members to express their support for the declaration.

We should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sergey **Lavrov**
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation

(*Signed*) Gunter **Pleuger**
Permanent Representative of Germany

(*Signed*) Jean-Marc **de La Sablière**
Permanent Representative of France

03-24288 (E) 100203 100203

Annex to the letter dated 10 February 2003 from the Permanent Representatives of France, Germany and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Joint declaration by the Russian Federation, Germany and France

[Original: French]

The Russian Federation, Germany and France, in close coordination, reaffirm that the disarmament of Iraq, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions since resolution 687 (1991), is the common aim of the international community, and that it must be pursued to its conclusion within the shortest possible period.

There is a debate over the means to achieve this. This debate must continue in the spirit of friendship and respect that characterizes our relations with the United States of America. It should be inspired by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as stated recently by Mr. Kofi Annan.

Resolution 1441 (2002), adopted unanimously by the Security Council, provides a framework whose possibilities have not yet been thoroughly explored.

The inspections conducted by the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have already yielded results. The Russian Federation, Germany and France favour the continuation of inspections and the substantial strengthening of their human and technical capabilities by all possible means and in consultation with the inspectors, within the framework of resolution 1441 (2002).

There is still an alternative to war. The use of force could only be a last resort. The Russian Federation, Germany and France are determined to allow every opportunity for the peaceful disarmament of Iraq.

It is up to Iraq to cooperate actively with UNMOVIC and IAEA so that they can complete the inspections. Iraq must face up to its responsibilities in full.

The Russian Federation, Germany and France note that the position they express coincides with that of a large number of countries, within the Security Council in particular.

United Nations S/2003/165

Security Council

Distr.: General
12 February 2003
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 7 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 7 February 2003.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

03-24413 (E) 240203 240203

Annex to the identical letters dated 7 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq

Inspection activities carried out on 7 February 2003

I. UNMOVIC inspection team (chemical)

The team, comprising four inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 0900 hours and went to the Wathba water treatment plant, a subsidiary of the Baghdad Water Authority. Since it was Friday, an official religious holiday in Iraq, the team met the site watchman and asked him a number of questions, inter alia whether any new equipment had been brought to the site, whether any changes had occurred since 1998, how many water pumping pipes there were, what was the concentration of chlorine used in the water and if there were any files on chlorine consumption. The team then inspected all the site's installations. The team completed its assignment, which lasted one hour, then returned to the Canal Hotel.

II. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

The team, comprising three inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 0845 hours and arrived at the Karamah State Company, an affiliate of the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC), located in Waziriyah. The team met a number of officials from the establishment, and asked them questions about quality control: where it took place, whether the process was centralized in all the Karamah factories or carried out separately and whether all the quality control equipment was located at the establishment or elsewhere. The team then inspected the source materials warehouse, the structures building, the training building and the raw materials warehouse. The team completed its assignment, which lasted two hours, then returned to the Canal Hotel.

III. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

1. **Aerial observation group**: An UNMOVIC helicopter, carrying two inspectors, took off from the Rashid airfield. It flew over Ghalibiyah, Diyala, Khalis, Azim, Samarra (Samarra pharmaceutical laboratories) and Dawr (Salah al-Din State Company). During the operation, the group used a camera. The group completed its assignment, which lasted three hours, then returned to the Rashid airfield.

2. **Second group**: The group, comprising eight inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 0815 hours and arrived at the private sector livestock farm and fodder warehouse located 10 kilometres from the town of Kut. The group used chemical and radiation detection equipment. The group completed its assignment, which lasted three hours, then returned to the Canal Hotel in Baghdad.

IV. UNMOVIC joint inspection team

The team, comprising 18 inspectors, left the Canal Hotel at 0950 hours and arrived at the warehouses belonging to the State Crop Protection Board, a subsidiary of the army, and the Suwayrah Technical Institute, an affiliate of the Technical Institutes Commission. At the warehouses of the State Crop Protection Board, the team met the warehouse director and asked him several questions regarding the number of warehouses, their contents, the materials stored in each warehouse, the bodies which made use of them and changes which had occurred since 1998. The team asked whether there was a link between the site and the army. The team then inspected the warehouses and examined their contents. During the inspection, the team used portable sonar equipment to check the depth of recently constructed cement floors. At the second army-owned site, namely two hangars, the team examined the contents of the site and used the sonar equipment to take measurements outside the hangars. The team drove around the third site, which belongs to the Suwayrah Technical Institute, and asked to visit the units, but was informed that the Institute was officially on holiday (mid-year holiday) and that the keys to the units were not available. Consequently, the team simply looked through the windows and openings. It completed its assignment, which lasted three hours, then returned to the Canal Hotel in Baghdad.

United Nations S/2003/166

Security Council

Distr.: General
12 February 2003
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 8 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 8 February 2003.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

03-24419 (E) 210203 240203

Annex to the identical letters dated 8 February 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq on 8 February 2003

I. IAEA inspection team

1. A first group, composed of four inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9.15 a.m. for the Al-Dawrah area of Baghdad, where it carried out radiation surveys in the following places: Al-Dawrah oil refinery, which belongs to the Iraqi Oil Ministry, the Al-Nasr al-Azim Company, affiliated with the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC), a military unit belonging to the air force and three private farms. The mission lasted three hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

2. A second group, composed of three inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. The group's mission was to install two air sampling devices, one at the Jadiriyah complex and one at the 17 Nisan Company in Baghdad. The mission lasted two and a half hours, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

II. UNMOVIC inspection team (chemical)

The team, composed of six inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.45 a.m. and arrived at the Rashid water treatment plant, managed by the municipality of Baghdad. The team met one of the employees at the site and asked him about any changes that had taken place over the past four years and about the number of new pumps at the site, and the number of full, empty or abandoned bottles of chlorine gas. The team then inspected all the installations at the site and photographed the sedimentation tanks and the pumps. The mission lasted one hour, after which the group returned to the Canal Hotel.

III. UNMOVIC inspection team (biological)

This team, composed of 12 inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 9 a.m. and arrived in the Jurf al-Naddaf area, located 25 kilometres south of Baghdad, where it inspected two sites. At the first site, the Jurf al-Naddaf storage facility belonging to the Mesopotamia State Seed Company, the team met with the general manager of the storage facility. It asked him about the site and the companies that had operated the facility before it came to be used by the Mesopotamia State Company, the owner, the address of the head office and the method used to reduce the size of the seeds. The second site was the seed processing plant belonging to the Atomic Energy Organization. The inspectors entered through one of the openings in the warehouses and verified their contents, which consisted of barley seed. The visit lasted three and a half hours, after which the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

IV. UNMOVIC inspection team (missiles)

This team, composed of 21 inspectors, left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. for the Waziriyah district of Baghdad. The team inspected the Central Workers' Press, affiliated with the General Workers' Trade Union, the Tahrir Institute, the Al-Amin Institute, the Al-Mu'tasim Centre, which is an MIC affiliate, the Office of Environmental Protection, which comes under the Council of Ministers, and the Qatar al-Nadah kindergarten. All activity at the facilities on the above-mentioned sites was halted and the team inspected all the facilities, except for some buildings at the Al-Mu'tasim Centre for which the keys were not available. These sites were tagged for inspection the following day. The inspection lasted 4 hours 20 minutes, after which the team returned to the Canal Hotel.

V. UNMOVIC joint inspection team in Mosul

This team, composed of 13 persons, left the Nineveh Palace Hotel at 9 a.m. for the Technical Institute in Mosul, which comes under the Technical Education Commission. The team asked the Director of the Institute about its full name and its links with Iraqi universities and other Iraqi institutes, whether the Institute was linked to any industrial projects, whether technical projects were being carried out at the Institute, its source of funding, how it obtained new equipment and how long courses lasted at the Institute. The team then inspected all the Institute's premises. The inspection lasted three hours, after which the team returned to the Nineveh Palace Hotel.

VI. Meetings

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) requested a meeting with an Iraqi scientist. The meeting took place in private in a Baghdad Hotel and lasted two and a half hours.